6. The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979.

Development of Tourism in India

1253. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to permit international chain of hotels to set up hotels in order to give a boost to tourism industry in India; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Guidelines for Foreign Investment and Collaboration in the Hotel Industry are already there, under which international hotel chains can set up hotels in India in collaboration with Indian parties.

Finding of Audit Report of NCCF on purchase of food items

1254. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Auditors in their report on the accounts of the NCCF for the period ended 30th June 1985 has revealed that heavy purchases of Arhar Dal, Masoor Chanti, Mustard oil, tea etc. were made by Branch Managers of Patna, Kanpur, Calcutta, Cuttack; Bangalore; and Srinagar Branches (i) without firm indents (ii) from non-approved suppliers (iii) without obtaining quotations (iv) without going through the purchase committee (v) without written agreements and above all (vi) without Head Office approval;

(b) whether it is a fact that these commodities were not disposed of at the time when rates were favourable and also that excessive high inventroies were maintained; and

(c) if so the action taken against the Branch Managers involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) to (c) The National Cooperative Consumers Federaiton (NCCF) has reported that stocks of grocery items including pulses were purchased during the period by the NCCF according to its Rabi and Kharif procurement plan. In the lean period also stocks were purchased by the NCCF according to the requirements of its branches. Grocery items are subject to price fluctuations due to changes in market conditions. The Rabi procurement starts in April and ends in June/July and as such excessive high inventory as on 30th June could not be avoided due to non-movement of stocks from procuring centres to the consuming centres and also due to unfavourable prices during the procurement season. The practice of inviting quotations through tenders is not being followed because of day to day fluctuations in prices and the resultant time constraint in finalising such purchases.

The question of procedural irregularities, if any in these purchases, is being looked by the Internal Audit.

Import of sub-standard billets by the SAIL

1255. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

SHRI RAM CHANDER VIKAL:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 7th April, 1988 to the effect that the Steel Authority of India Limited had imported in 1986 sub-standard billets valued at over Rs. 18